

Applicant : Ernest R. Chacon
Appl. No. : 10/638,159
Examiner : Helen OK Chu
Docket No. : 13710-4001

CLAIMS:

1-6. Cancelled.

7. (Currently Amended) A battery storage apparatus comprising a housing, said housing comprising:

(a) a first non-conductive sleeve having an open end, a closed end, and a substantially constant cross section along its entire length from the open end to the closed end, said first sleeve dimensioned to conform closely to and receive a battery of known dimensions, the length of said first sleeve being shorter than the length of said battery;

and

(b) a second non-conductive sleeve having an open end, a closed end, and a substantially constant cross section along its entire length from the open end to the closed end, said second sleeve being dimensioned to conform closely to and receive the exposed end of said battery of known dimensions, the length of said second sleeve approximately the length of said exposed battery;

and

(c) wherein said battery storage apparatus allows retrieval of said battery for removal from the battery storage apparatus for use in a device requiring batteries.

8. (Currently Amended) The battery storage apparatus of claim 7, wherein

(a) a first non-conductive sleeve defines more than one cavity, each cavity having an open end, a closed end, and a substantially constant cross section along its entire length from the open end to the closed end, each of said cavities being dimensioned to conform closely to and receive a battery of known dimensions, the length of said first sleeve being shorter than the length of said battery; and

(b) a second non-conductive sleeve defines more than one cavity, each cavity with an open end, a closed end, and a substantially constant cross section along its entire length from the open end to the closed end, said second sleeve being

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dimensioned to conform closely to and receive the exposed end of said battery of known dimensions, the length of said second sleeve approximately the length of said exposed battery or batteries.

9. (Currently Amended) The battery storage apparatus of claim 7, wherein the terminal closed end of the first sleeve defines at least one aperture large enough for air to pass through while a battery is being inserted or removed from said cavity, and the terminal closed end of the second sleeve defines at least one aperture large enough for air to pass through while a battery is being inserted or removed from said cavity, wherein each aperture allows easier insertion and removal of the battery.
10. (Currently Amended) The battery storage apparatus of claim 8, wherein the terminal closed ends of the first sleeve define at least one aperture large enough for air to pass through while a battery is being inserted or removed from said cavity, and the terminal closed ends of the second sleeve define at least one aperture large enough for air to pass through while a battery is being inserted or removed from said cavity, wherein each aperture allows easier insertion and removal of the batteries.
11. (Currently Amended) The battery storage apparatus of claim 9, wherein said aperture has a diameter smaller than a diameter of a battery terminal, thereby impeding contact with a battery terminal to prevent accidental discharge.
12. (Currently Amended) The battery storage apparatus of claim 10, wherein said aperture has a diameter smaller than a diameter of a battery terminal, thereby impeding contact with a battery terminal to prevent accidental discharge.

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13. (New) The battery storage apparatus of claim 7, wherein the battery or batteries are accessible to a user for any purpose.
14. (New) A battery storage apparatus comprising a housing, said housing comprising: a non-conductive sleeve having an open end, a closed end, and a substantially constant cross section along its entire length from the open end to the closed end, said sleeve dimensioned to conform closely to and receive a battery of known dimensions, the length of said sleeve being substantially the same length of said battery, wherein said battery storage apparatus allows retrieval of said battery.
15. (New) A battery storage apparatus comprising a housing, said housing comprising:
- (a) a first non-conductive sleeve having an open end, a closed end, and a substantially constant cross section along its entire length from the open end to the closed end, said first sleeve dimensioned to conform closely to and receive a battery of known dimensions, the length of said first sleeve being shorter than the length of said battery;
 - (b) a second non-conductive sleeve having an open end, a closed end, and a substantially constant cross section along its entire length from the open end to the closed end, said second sleeve being dimensioned to conform closely to and receive the exposed end of said battery of known dimensions, the length of said second sleeve being shorter than the length of said battery;
- and
- (c) wherein said battery storage apparatus allows retrieval of said battery for removal from the battery storage apparatus for use in a device requiring batteries.
16. (New) The battery storage apparatus of claim 14, wherein a non-conductive sleeve defines more than one cavity, each cavity having an open

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end, a closed end, and a substantially constant cross section along its entire length from the open end to the closed end, each of said cavities being dimensioned to conform closely to and receive a battery of known dimensions, the length of said sleeve being substantially the length of said battery.

17. (New) The battery storage apparatus of claim 14, wherein

(a) the first non-conductive sleeve defines more than one cavity, each cavity having an open end, a closed end, and a substantially constant cross section along its entire length from the open end to the closed end, each of said cavities being dimensioned to conform closely to and receive a battery of known dimensions, the length of said first sleeve being shorter than the length of said battery; and

(b) the second non-conductive sleeve defines more than one cavity, each cavity with an open end, a closed end, and a substantially constant cross section along its entire length from the open end to the closed end, said second sleeve being dimensioned to conform closely to and receive the exposed end of said battery of known dimensions, the length of said second sleeve being shorter than the length of said exposed battery or batteries.

18. (New) The battery storage apparatus of claim 16, wherein the terminal end of the sleeve defines at least one aperture large enough for air to pass through, wherein each aperture allows easier insertion of the battery.

19. (New) The battery storage apparatus of claim 15, wherein the terminal ends of the first sleeve define at least one aperture large enough for air to pass through and the terminal ends of the second sleeve define at least one aperture large enough for air to pass through, wherein each aperture allows easier insertion of the batteries.

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20. (New) The battery storage apparatus of claim 18, wherein said aperture has a diameter smaller than a diameter of a battery terminal, thereby impeding contact with a battery terminal to prevent accidental discharge.

21. (New) The battery storage apparatus of claim 19, wherein said aperture has a diameter smaller than a diameter of a battery terminal thereby impeding contact with a battery terminal to prevent accidental discharge.

22. (New) The battery storage apparatus of claim 15, wherein the battery or batteries are accessible to a user for any purpose.